Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /030 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:JCOOK:DAP APPROVED BY EB/AN:WBCOBB NEA/EGY - MR. MATTHEWS CAB - M. PETT (SUBS)

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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:EAIR, EG

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 215630

ON SEPTEMBER 12, MESSERS MATTHEWS AND COOK DELIVERED AIDE MEMOIRE ON SUBJECT TALKS (SEE REFTEL) AND DISCUSSED US POSITION WITH AMBASSADOR GHORBAL. GHORBAL PROMISED TO CONVEY OUR CONCERNS TO AUTHORITIES IN CAIRO EMPHASIZING THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RAMIFICATIONS OF GOE ACTION AGAINST TWA. HE NOTED THAT SITUATION WOULD BE EASILY RESOLVED IF TWA AND EGYPTAIR COULD ENTER INTO A POOLING ARRANGEMENT. DEPTOFF EXPLAINED THAT POOLING WAS NOT A REALISTIC OPTION BECAUSE OF US ANTITRUST LAWS. GHORBAL SUGGESTED TECHNICAL COOPERATION ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN TWA AND EGYPTAIR AS AN ALTERNATIVE. DEPTOFF SAID THIS HAD BEEN SUGGESTED TO TWA REP WHO SAID HE WOULD EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY WHEN HE MET WITH HIS EGYPTAIR COUNTERPARTS IN CAIRO. GENERALLY, GHORBAL SEEMED TO BE RECEPTIVE TO ARGUMENTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN REFTEL, ESPECIALLY THE POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECT ON

TOURISM AND BUSINESS TRAVEL AND THE FACT THAT THE SCHEDULING PATTERN ON AFFECTED SEGMENTS WAS SUCH THAT TRAFFIC WOULD NOT NECESSARILY FLOW TO EGYPTAIR AFTER THE RESTRICTIONS WERE IMPOSED. KISSINGER

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